

**Highland Storm Minor Hockey**  
**COVID-19 Return to Hockey Plan**  
**September 16, 2020**

Overview

The Highland Storm Minor Hockey Association is a member of the OMHA and must obtain OMHA approval of our Return to Hockey Plan prior to commencing the 2020/21 season.

This plan has been developed in conjunction with the Township of Dysart et al and Minden Hills, the current ice providers to our Hockey Association.

The goal of the plan is to meet the requirements of the OHF Return to Hockey Framework, as it relates to the Phase 2 Stage 3B that allows Minor Hockey Associations to conduct, with the approval of the OMHA, instructional training for players and modified non-contact play. A cornerstone of the plan is to provide the safest environment possible for players and team staff.

Advancement through Stages 3B to 3E will be at the approval and direction of the OMHA. Additionally, this plan is for the period commencing October 5th, 2020 and ending December 21, 2020.

The initial two week period will consist of player conditioning and skill development followed by modified game play during the next 10 weeks.

Prior to January 4<sup>th</sup>, 2021 the association will develop a new plan for the remainder of the season consistent with any learnings and direction from the OHF, OMHA and Public Health Unit.

At this point a return to regular hockey, including participation in league and travel tournaments will not occur until a COVID-19 vaccine is available and we advance to Stage 4.

Eligibility to Participate

Per the OHF Framework, only players registered with Highland Storm Minor Hockey during the 2019/20 season or players who are identify Highland Storm

Minor Hockey as their home center. Highland Storm Minor Hockey is not providing any new releases to players at this time.

No tryouts will take place for the 2020/21 season as it has not been approved at the OHF at this time.

Participation at any session (practice/fitness/meetings etc) is limited to 25 participants (players plus team staff). Such participants must strictly follow the social distancing guidelines established by the Government, Public Health Unit, OHF Framework and Local Municipalities. It is understood that this is an evolving situation and guidelines and requirements may change on short notice.

#### COVID-19 Reporting

A record of all Participants, including name, phone number, date/time of session must be maintained by the Team Manager. Upon request, this information must be provided to the Municipality and/or the Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit, in the event there is a need to Contract Trace a COVID-19 positive case. The prescribed Health Unit Reporting Form will be provided.

#### COVID-19 Screening

All participants are to be pre-screened for COVID-19 symptoms or exposure per the prescribed OHF Screening Form prior to participation at each Team Session. Parents will be responsible for completing the pre-screening with their child prior to attending the facility. A record of the pre-screening is to be maintained by the Manager of the Team.

Participants who are not feeling well, exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19 or have been exposed to COVID-19 must not participate in any session. In such instances, the Participant/Parent must communicate this information to the Team Manager. The Team Manger will then provide this information to the Highland Storm Minor Hockey COVID-19 lead, Amanda Rowden. The participant will not be allowed to return until such as Medical clearance is obtained through a negative COVID-19 test or a quarantine period of 14 days.

#### Facility Management

The following is required to enter/exit any Facility involved in a Team Session.

1. Team Sessions will be limited to 25 participants including Team Staff.
2. Participants are to enter the Facility no sooner than 10 minutes prior to the scheduled session time and must be fully dressed except for skates, helmets and gloves.
3. Participants are required to sanitize their hands at the Sanitizing station upon entry/exit of the facility.
4. Participants, Team Staff, and Parents will all be required to wear face masks/coverings into the facility unless physically participating in the session.
5. Participants must not cough or sneeze without properly covering their face. Spitting on the floor or ice is not allowed.
6. Participants must be physically distance upon entry by maintaining a distance of at least 2 meters from other Participants and immediately proceed to the designated area for putting on skates, helmets and gloves. Chairs for the participants will be socially distanced.
7. Upon completion of the Session, Participants are to proceed immediately to the designated area to remove skates, helmets and gloves and leave the facility without loitering.
8. Participants for the following session will not be allowed into the facility until all of participants from the prior session have left the facility.
9. Each team will be provided with a designated area for putting on skates, helmets, gloves. Chairs spaced out will be provided.
10. Change rooms will not be used by participants. Change rooms will be open to use the bathrooms. Each team will use the change room bathroom located closest to their designated area.
11. Main Lobby bathrooms will not be used by Participants.
12. When using the washroom, access is limited to 1 Participant at a time and hand washing is required.
13. The chairs and the designated area will be disinfected after each session by Facility Staff.
14. One parent will be allowed into the facility with each child. The parent will need to sit in the stands and will not be allowed to stand in the lobby area.

Parents are expected to remain socially distant from other parents while in the stands and will be required to wear a mask at all times.

### Session Management

The following is required by all Participants during the Team Session.

1. The bench area is closed during player development & conditioning sessions, except for a Participant requiring medical attention. The Team Trainer must practice medical guidelines when attending to a Participant, including wearing a face covering. During modified game play the bench area will be limited to a maximum 6 Players, 1 Coach and 1 Trainer who must practice social distancing.
2. Participants are to Socially Distance at all times on and off the ice, where possible.
3. Drills, activities, exercises, etc. are to be limited to those that can be done with Social Distancing.
4. There is to be no prolonged or deliberate drills, activities, exercises, etc. that require physical contact among players (ie, battle drills, body contact drills, scrimmages, exercises using a partner, etc.). Incidental contact in the course of other drills is to be minimized by the players( concept of non-contact hockey).
5. No sharing of Water Bottles or other types of Equipment that is physically touched by Participants. Participants are to bring a full Water Bottle from home.
6. Any equipment used by Participants during the Session must be disinfected in between Sessions.

### Modified Game Play

The Association will provide a non-contact game like experience commencing October 19<sup>th</sup>, 2020.

Highland Storm Minor Hockey will have three to four divisions with a maximum of 50 players in each in Division. There will be 4-5 teams in each division. Each team will be comprised of 6-9 players plus a goalie. Games will be 3v3 and will comply with all the requirements of the OHF Return to Play.

### Participant Registration

Highland Storm Minor Hockey has completed a pre-registration process to determine interest in our program, the cut off date for that registration was September 1, 2020. All players who register beyond that date will be placed on a waiting list and will be added to rosters as space becomes available.

Our registration will be open from September 18<sup>th</sup> to September 25<sup>th</sup>. 2020. Payment must be received by September 25<sup>th</sup>, 2020.

The cost for registration for the program running from October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2020 to December 21<sup>st</sup>, 2020 will be \$225.00

### Communication

1. The Association will post an update on the website by September 18<sup>th</sup>, 2020 outlining the Plan that is submitted to the OMHA for approval.
2. The details of the Return to Hockey Plan is to be communicated to all Participants and Parents by the Head Coach.
3. A Return to Hockey Acknowledgement Form must be signed by all Participants and Parents prior to participation in the Association Return to Hockey. This process will be administered by the Executive outside the Facility. A copy of the Form will be posted on the website to encourage completion prior to arrival at the first Session.
4. The Head Coach of each Team is responsible for the adherence to this Plan at all times. Non-compliance by any Participant or Parent may result in a suspension from further participation.
5. The Return to Hockey Plan may be suspended at any time based on direction from governing bodies or the Association Executive due to concerns over transmission exposure to COVID 19.
6. Any suggestions, concerns or questions regarding the implementation of the Plan must be directed to a member of the Highland Storm Minor Hockey Executive.

### Other

The Association President will be responsible for the overall management of the Return to Play Plan.

The OMHA Rep, will be responsible for monitoring updates from the OHF and the OMHA and will be responsible for providing communication with the participants, parents and the OMHA.

The COVID-19 Lead Role will be responsible for monitoring updates from local Municipalities and the Public Health Unit. The Association COVID-19 Lead will be responsible for development and implementation of all record keeping and reporting requirements. This will involve the direct oversight of the Team Managers.

The Association Vice President and Team Officials Rep will oversee the implementation of this Plan as it relates to the Head Coaches.

Submitted September 16th, 2020

Amanda Manning  
OMHA Rep  
Highland Storm Minor Hockey Association